

Edible Plants of Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary, Bundi (Rajasthan) Utilization by Ethnic People

Abstract

The present paper deals with edible plants of Ramgarh Vishdhari wildlife sanctuary utilized by ethnic people of the area. Total 33 wild plants are identified as the source of food in the present study. In this communication, effective data related to wild edible plants of the area are provided. Some of the wild fruits are highly nutritious. These studies have been conducted by extensive survey of the area during February 2012 to June 2017. Traditional knowledge is imperative for sustainability of natural resources.

Keywords: Angiosperm, Deciduous, Edible, Ethnic, Religious, Traditional.

Introduction

Ramgarh Vishdhari wildlife sanctuary of Bundi district is situated in between 24°59'11" to 25°53'11" north latitudes and 75°19'30" to 76°49'30" east longitudes. The ethnic people reside in the area are mainly belong to Meena, Kalbelias, Gurjar, Raibaris and Mogiyas community. These tribes are backward in their livelihood and food habits.

This paper focuses on wild edible plants used by ethnic people of Ramgarh Vishdhari wildlife sanctuary area. The study of wild economic plants as herbal resources has become a necessity. The present paper communicates wild plants used as food material for tribes and local people of Ramgarh Vishdhari wildlife sanctuary of Bundi district. Biotic disturbances and climatic conditions cause adverse impact on the wealth of forest flora. The availability of their food requirement is not enough, so they depend upon forest products in various ways.

Review of Literature

Plant exploration through the floristic study is a powerful tool in plant systematics.¹ These edible plants of this sanctuary have potential of earning source of money for local people.²⁻⁴ Notable floristic and ethnobotanical studies of various parts of India have been made by various authors.^{5,6} Ethnomedicinal observation assessed by many researches in different parts of the country.⁷⁻⁹ The forest vegetation of the area is tropical dry deciduous (Champion and Seth 1968).¹⁰ There is an urgent need to carry out the basic traditional research for obtaining revenue from natural resources.¹¹ Literature survey of floristic and ethnobotanical work was studying the recent work done by some authors.¹²⁻¹⁵

Aims of the Study

This study aims to identify the economic plants of the area and to minimize its loss and interesting ethno economic information related with tribes of Ramgarh Vishdhari wildlife sanctuary area. There is an urgent need to carry out the basic traditional research for obtaining revenue from natural resources. There is no attempt made so far for such type of study in the area.

Material and Methods

This study is based on field excursions of entire Ramgarh Vishdhari wildlife sanctuary of Bundi district, a part of south-east Rajasthan. The information regarding the present works was noted. Plant collection trips were made in different seasons. 33 plant species were reported in this work. Specimens of collected plant species were preserved in herbarium chamber, Govt. College Bundi by author.

A checklist of wild edible plants of Ramgarh Vishdhari wildlife sanctuary is being listed in a table. The plant species were arranged in alphabetical order. The list is tabulated as the botanical names of the species followed by the family, common name and plant parts or product used.



O. P. Sharma

Associate Professor,
Deptt. of Botany,
Govt. College,
Bundi, Rajasthan

Results and Discussion

There are a large number of forest plants including trees, shrubs, herbs and climbers, which produced edible rhizome, stem, leaves, flower and fruits. Different types of edible parts are eaten in different forms. Folk people of the area are depended on the forest for meeting basic needs such as shelter, food, fodder, etc. Some of the food materials possess more nutritious values.

Studied wild plant species of Ramgarh Vishdhari wildlife sanctuary area those yielding

various plant parts along with their common name, family and uses are given in this paper (Table-1). The communication deals with 33 plant species consumed as food by tribes of the area. The plant parts used for edible purpose in the study area has been shown in percentage form (Table-2 and Fig.-1).

These edible plants of this sanctuary have the potential of the source of earning money for local people. The availability of their food requirement is not enough, so they depend upon forest products in various ways.

Table 1: Wild Edible Plants of Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary, Bundi District

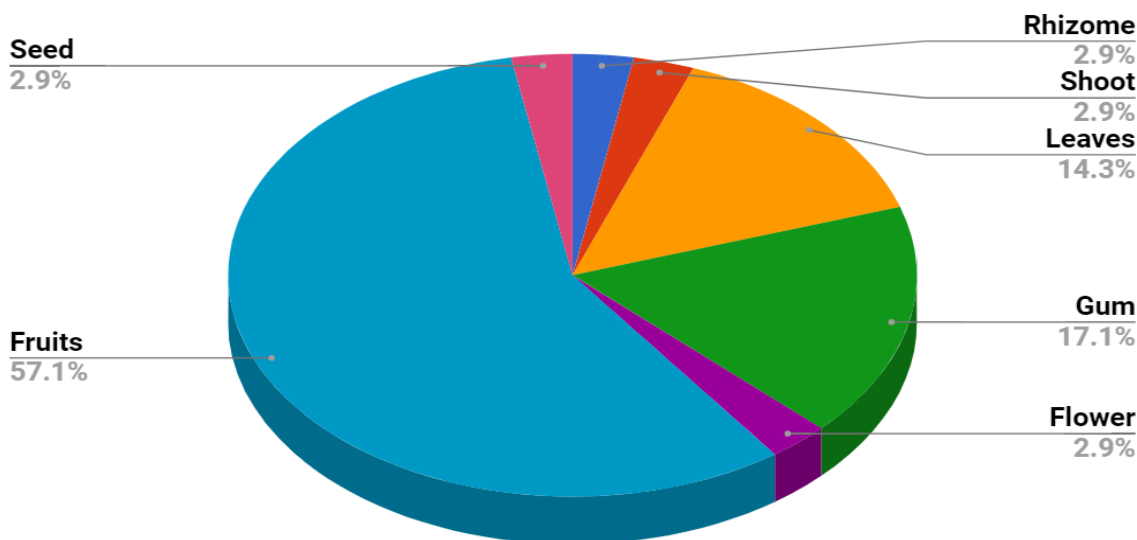
Serial No.	Name of the Plant Species	Common Name	Family	Parts / Products used as food
1.	<i>Acacia catechu</i>	Khair	Mimosaceae	Gum
2.	<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	Babool	Mimosaceae	Gum
3.	<i>Aegle marmelos</i>	Bel	Rutaceae	Fruits
4.	<i>Amaranthus spinosus</i>	Cholai	Amaranthaceae	Leaves
5.	<i>Amaranthus viridis</i>	Bhaji	Amaranthaceae	Leaves
6.	<i>Annona squamosa</i>	Sitaphal	Annonaceae	Fruits
7.	<i>Anogeissus pendula</i>	Dhokra	Combretaceae	Gum
8.	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	Neem	Meliaceae	Leaves and Fruits
9.	<i>Bambusa arundinacea</i>	Bans	Poaceae	Young shoot
10.	<i>Boswellia serrata</i>	Salar	Burseraceae	Gum
11.	<i>Capparis decidua</i>	Kair	Capparaceae	Fruits
12.	<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Bathua	Chenopodiaceae	Leaves
13.	<i>Coccinia grandis</i>	Kandori	Cucurbitaceae	Fruits
14.	<i>Cucumis callosus</i>	Kachari	Cucurbitaceae	Fruits
15.	<i>Emblica officinalis</i>	Amla	Euphorbiaceae	Fruits
16.	<i>Echinochloa colonum</i>	Samma	Poaceae	Seed
17.	<i>Feronia limonia</i>	Kait	Rutaceae	Fruits
18.	<i>Ficus racemosus</i>	Gular	Moraceae	Fruits
19.	<i>Holoptelea integrifolia</i>	Charel	Ulmaceae	Fruits
20.	<i>Lannea coromandelica</i>	Gurjan	Anacardiaceae	Gum
21.	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	Aam	Anacardiaceae	Fruits
22.	<i>Manilkara hexandra</i>	Raini	Sapotaceae	Fruits
23.	<i>Moringa oleifera</i>	Sejana	Moringaceae	Flower and Fruits
24.	<i>Nelumbo nucifera</i>	Kamal	Nelumbonaceae	Rhizome
25.	<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Khatti buti	Oxalidaceae	Leaves
26.	<i>Pithecellobium dulce</i>	Jangal jalebi	Mimosaceae	Fruits
27.	<i>Phoenix sylvestris</i>	Khajur	Arecaceae	Fruits
28.	<i>Sterculia urens</i>	Kadya	Sterculiaceae	Gum
29.	<i>Syzygium cumini</i>	Jamun	Myrtaceae	Fruits
30.	<i>Tamarindus indica</i>	Imli	Caesalpiniaceae	Fruits
31.	<i>Trapa natans</i>	Singhada	Trapaceae	Fruits
32.	<i>Zizyphus mauritiana</i>	Badabor	Rhamnaceae	Fruits
33.	<i>Zizyphus nummularia</i>	Bordi	Rhamnaceae	Fruits

Table 2: Plant Parts / Products Used as food in Percentage form

Serial Number	Plant Parts/ Products	Percentage
1	Rhizome	2.9%
2	Shoot	2.9%
3	Leaves	14.3%
4	Gum	17.1%
5	Flower	2.9%
6	Fruits	57.1%
7	Seed	2.9%

Figure: 1

Graphical Representation of Plant Parts/Products Used As Food in Percentage Form

Percentage vs. Plant parts/ products**Conclusion**

The objectives of this study are to evaluate the wealth of natural food resources from wild plants of the area. Due to degradation of forest area and before station number of fruits bearing trees is decreasing rapidly. Specific attention must be needed for conserving these forest produces. 33 species of angiosperms have been reported in present work, utilized by ethnic people as food. These plant parts or their product may be roots, stems, barks, leaves, fruits, gum, rhizome etc. A comprehensive list of wild edible plants of Ramgarh Vishdhari wildlife sanctuary has been provided in this paper.

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